

Northampton Mercury



Thursday, December 20, 2012

First published 1720

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Help us hit £1.55m target for Macmillan



Macmillan Cancer Support is appealing to residents to help them hit their fund-raising total before the deadline of its joint charity appeal with the Chronicle & Echo.

The Chron and Macmillan launched the campaign just over two years ago to raise £1.55 million to help fund a new haematology unit at Northampton General Hospital.

The facility officially opened in October but the charity appeal currently stands at £1.4 million and needs more donations to help hit its target before the deadline on January 23.

Area fund-raising manager for Macmillan, Bernadette Halton, said: "We had a fantastic year and we're so pleased with the amount of money people have raised for us. It's fantastic to see the unit up and running and it would be lovely to finish the year off with the outstanding donations coming in."

Macmillan are appealing to residents who took part in the World's Biggest Coffee morning or held individual events to send in their funds.

More than 650 people are diagnosed with and treated for blood cancers at the hospital every year and the new haematology unit is bigger than its predecessor and purpose-built to offer patients a more relaxing, comfortable and appropriate environment.

To donate by post, write to: Macmillan Cancer Support, Supporter Services, Freepost LON15851, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE17UQ. Be sure to quote the code "ASO521" to ensure the money goes to the Northampton appeal. For details, call 0300 100 0200.

Appeal after pedestrian hit

Police are appealing for witnesses after a driver hit a pedestrian and left the scene without leaving any contact details.

The incident happened on Sunday, December 16, between 3.15pm and 3.30pm on Towcester Road, Northampton.

A woman was crossing the road at traffic lights when a car drove through the pelican crossing, resulting in the wing mirror clipping the victim on her hip, causing minor injuries.

The driver of the car stopped at the scene initially but did not leave any contact details with the victim. The vehicle was possibly a dark blue or black Ford Mondeo. Witnesses or anyone with information should call police on 101.

Dogs search for missing bullets

Police dogs have been hunting for missing bullets which fell from the roof of a police car during an armed response.

Firearms officers were responding to an emergency call in the early hours Monday morning. During the response, a box containing bullets which had been left on the roof fell into the road near the A43 roundabout with the M1. The box has been recovered but five bullets are currently unaccounted for.

A spokesman for Northamptonshire Police said: "It is possible the remaining few bullets could have been carried a distance in the tyres of large vehicles."

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Web shoppers give

An extra 400 sorting office staff are being employed over the festive season

The Royal Mail sorting office in Northampton is expecting to deal with more than one million letters and packages a day during its busiest week of the year.

An extra 400 staff have been taken on at the South Midlands Mail Centre, in Swan Valley, to help ensure post is delivered as quickly as possible.

Renato Senatore, plant manager, said there had been a noticeable upturn in the number of parcels being delivered as a result of the increasing popularity of internet shopping.

He said: "Across the business there has been a decline in letter traffic, but we've seen a lot more parcels this year as it seems more people are shopping online."

"Our busiest days tend to be on the Mondays in December as people seem to write their Christmas cards at the weekend then post them."

Mr Senatore said the main problem Royal Mail staff encountered was people failing to put a postcode or a full address on letters.

On a tour around the sorting office, the Chronicle & Echo was shown letters which had been posted with no other address details other than "Olive" or "Graham".

Mr Senatore said another popular address which people often got wrong, was Father Christmas's. His official address is Santa's

Grotto, Reindeerland, SAN TA1.

Mr Senatore said: "We would advise people to address mail clearly and wrap packages securely."

"If you do not know the post code of an address there is a tool on the Royal Mail website to find out."

The mail centre in Northampton, which opened in 2010, is using the latest technology to ensure the post is sorted as quickly as possible.

When post first arrives into the mail centre it is placed in a large machine, which analyses the stamps before sorting letters into first and second class.

The mail is then put into a separate machine which can sort up to 40,000 pieces of mail by scanning the postcodes.

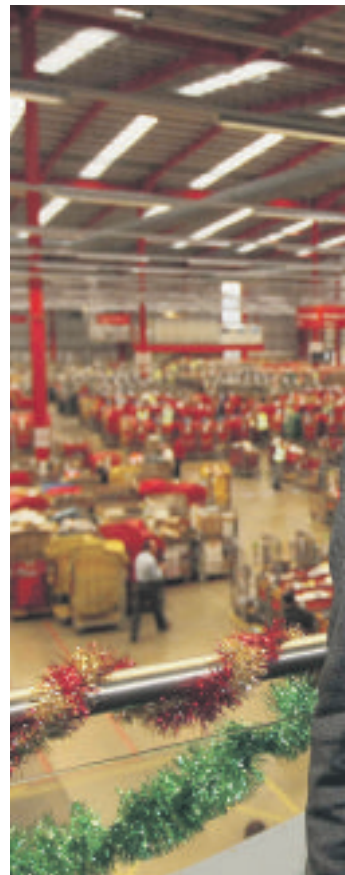
However, the machine is only able to sort the mail if the envelopes are white and of a standard shape.

If the card is an unusual shape or a different colour, such as red, it needs to be sorted by hand.

However, this should not mean that cards in coloured envelopes will take longer to be delivered.

The plant manager said he was hoping there would be no snow fall before Christmas as it would disrupt the delivery time of all letters and packages.

He said: "Weather has an impact on deliveries, but everything is going really well at the moment. We just hope we don't get too much snow."



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Royal Mail a boost



'Weather has an impact on deliveries, but everything is going really well at the moment. We just hope we don't get too much snow'

Plant manager Renato Senatore who is pictured with an example of some badly addressed letters.

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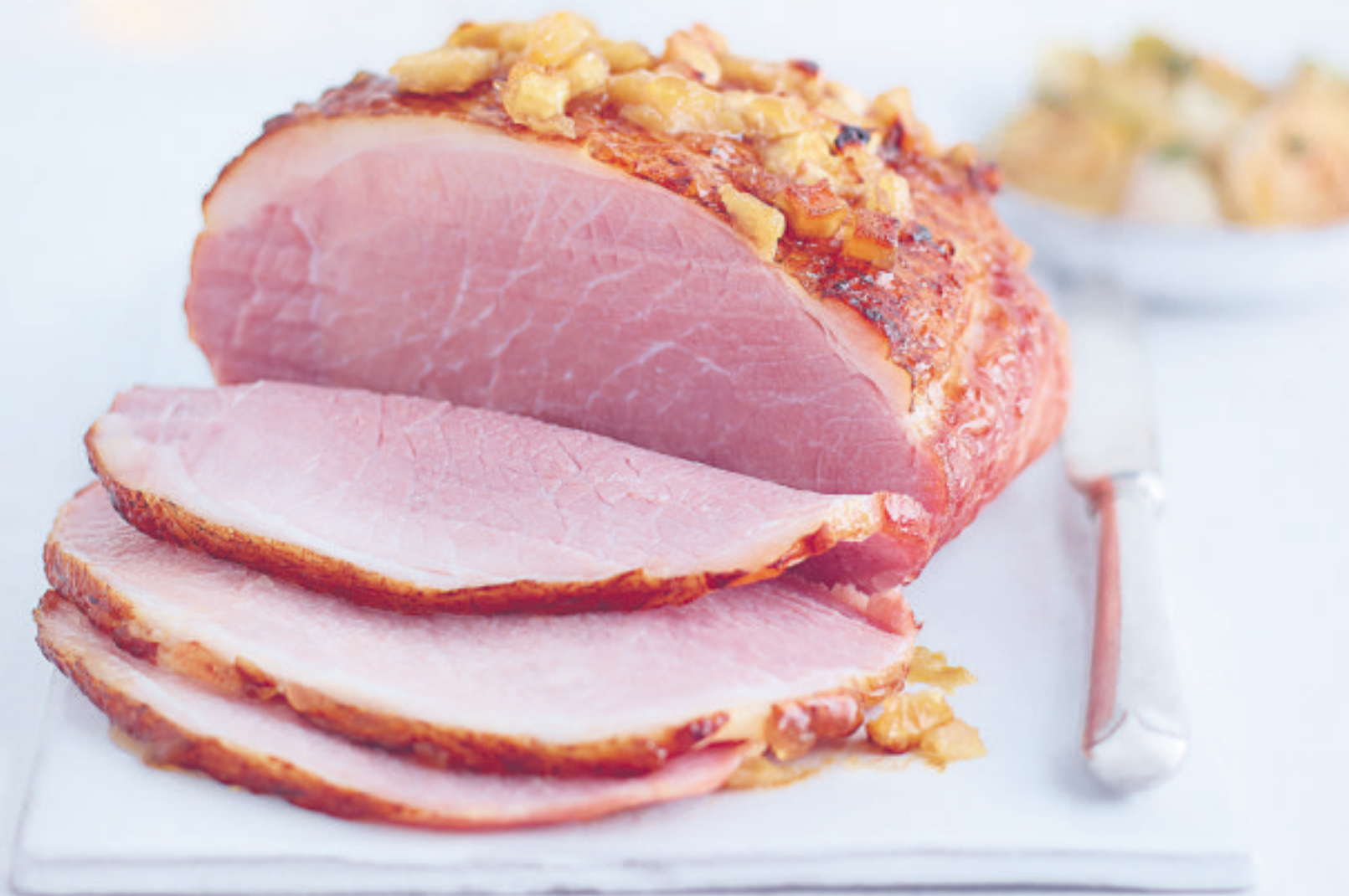
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Food poverty scheme launched

Help is at hand for families struggling to feed themselves in the run-up to Christmas with the launch of a new food poverty scheme for Northamptonshire.

The scheme, which is being launched in the county for the first time, has been made possible by a grant of more than £40,000 from Lord Northampton and his son, Lord Compton, to the Northamptonshire Community Foundation.

The grant-giving charity is working with community groups and food banks to distribute the funding across the county in time for the festive season.

The pilot follows 18 months of research to explore the challenges of food and fuel poverty and discuss how these should be best addressed.

The work included installing a kitchen at Northampton's Springs Family Centre last month to provide 'cook-

ing on a budget' courses.

Northamptonshire Community Foundation grants director, Rachel McGrath, said the scheme was based on "strategic philanthropy", where the charity identifies a need and a donor.

She said: "Food poverty is on the rise due to the economic climate.

"The number of people using food banks has doubled in the last 12 months.

"We understand food poverty has become an issue

and ties in with fuel poverty. People on very small budgets have to make the decision between heating and eating. Families can often be in a difficult situation.

"We are just testing the water and looking at a range of responses and longer-term solutions, as food banks can only be a short-term response. What people really want is to have independent wages and benefits so they don't have to rely on charities."



HELPING HANDS Clive Ireson, development manager at Springs Family Centre, Wendi Buchanan, food poverty co-ordinator for Northamptonshire Community Foundation and Rachel McGrath, grants director for Northamptonshire Community Foundation

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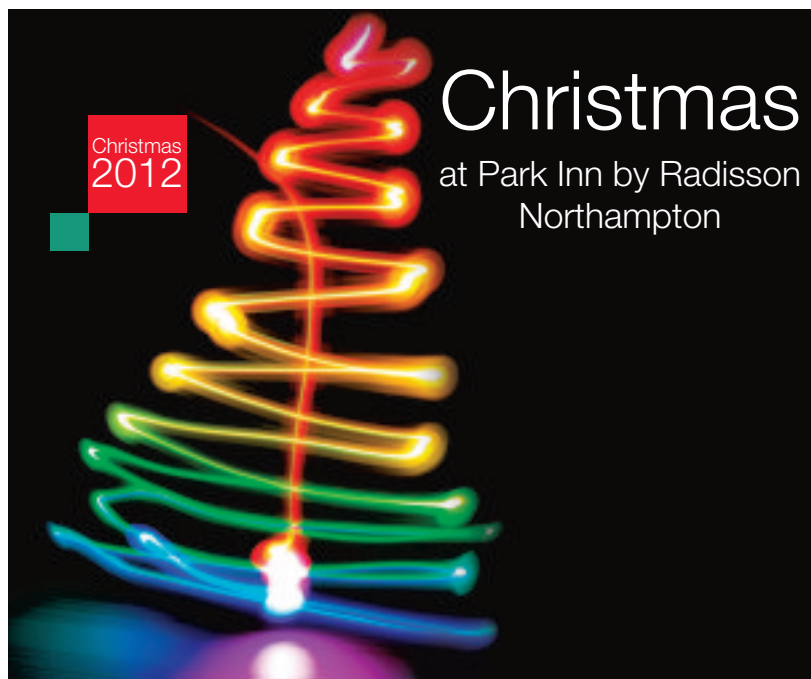
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Sportivate funding will give teenagers and young adults - who aren't currently playing sport in their own time - the chance to receive 6-8 weeks of coaching in a sport of their choice at your club venue.

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- 06 **BMW X3 2.0 TURBO DIESEL 5 DOOR HATCHBACK**, average mileage, full BMW specialist service history, power steering, electric windows, cd player, air conditioning, alloy wheels**£7,995**
- 08 **FORD FOCUS C-MAX 1.8 STYLE 5 DOOR MPV**, only 31,000 miles, full service history, air conditioning, metallic silver paintwork, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, electric mirrors, cd player,**£4,995**
- 07 **RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 EXTREME 5 DOOR MPV**, only 37,000 miles, full renault service history, metallic silver paintwork, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, alloy wheels, cd player**£4,495**
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- 06 **VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB 5 DOOR HATCHBACK** finished in metallic silver, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, electric mirrors, alloy wheels**£4,295**
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x

In Memoriam

BURDETT Peter
Dearly loved Husband, Father and Grandad.

Always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.

God Bless Pete, Ann, Steve, Dawn, Jade, Chloe, Benjamin and Thomas x

BURDETT Peter William
22nd December 2012.

Dad, two years have passed now since you left us. Not a day goes by when we don't think about you. Remembering all the good times we had. Hope you are looking down on us. We will never forget you, keep picking them winners.
Love you forever Dad.
Paul x Mel xx

In Memoriam

FURNISS Edna
Passed away 18th December 1993.

Sadly missed by Joe.

Rest in peace.

HOLLAND Reg
Died Dec 18th 2010.

My heart still aches with sadness, My silent tears still flow, What it meant to lose you, No one will ever know.
Your loving Wife Clara and Family
x

60th Birthday



Sandra Green
Happy 60th Birthday Sandra
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Love all your friends from the Chron
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Obituaries

BULL David
Passed away on 6th December.

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May he rest in peace.

BUMFORD — Carol Dear Family Friend of many years. You fought so hard to stay with us this was not meant to be God saw you getting weary and whispered "come with me" Love and miss you always. Tony, Maureen, Rob, Linda, Kerry, Emma and Baby Alicia xxx

MACKINTOSH — Olive You will be sadly missed but we hope at peace and no longer alone. Reunited with Richie and David. Remember you always. Linda, Paul, Louise, Emma and Joanna.

Acknowledgements

OLIVER Roy
Jane and Family would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support following the sad loss of Roy.

Thanks to all those who attended Roys Funeral, for the overwhelming number of cards and messages of sympathy and the kind donations to St Botolphs and Arthritis Care.

Special thanks to Reverend Sue Kipling, Kevin Matthews and all who made the Service so special.

MARTIN — Hilda Passed away 24/12/2003 Mum you are always in my thoughts. Love Graham x

MASON — Rose 22.12.10 3rd Christmas without you. We are all missing you. From Husband Ron, and Children Ron, Allen, Jayne and Carol. USA.

SPENCER — John Douglas Still remembered by loving Wife and Family x

Birthday Memories

HARRIS Stephen (Budge)

Thinking of you on what would have been your 60th Birthday on Christmas Eve.
From your loving Family xxx

REYNOLDS Jamie Douglas

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- Yoga (South Northants)
- Ballroom Dancing
- Cookery
- Dance Fitness
- Flower Arranging
- Genealogy
- Multisport
- Pilates (South Northants)
- Synchronised Swimming

We require tutors to have experience of teaching adults and have extensive subject knowledge, hold a suitable qualification, as a minimum, Preparation to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS), or be willing to gain this qualification within 1 year. We are always looking for new ideas for courses so if you are experienced in another subject area not listed above we would be interested in talking to you.

For an informal discussion please contact Maureen Patton on 01604 367950 or email mpatton@northamptonshire.gov.uk

For additional information about this role and to apply online or download an application pack, please go to www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/jobs stating reference number 52168 If you require an application pack in an alternative format, please contact 01604 237666.

Closing date: 27 December 2012.

Interviews 8 or 10 January 2013.



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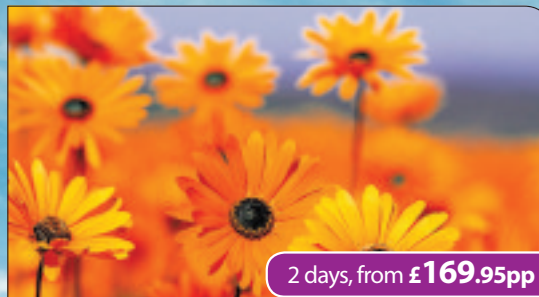
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Departing Friday 24 May 2013

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